

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

- (88) Date of publication A3:
18.12.2002 Bulletin 2002/51

(51) Int Cl.7: **H04L 12/40**, H04L 12/56,
H04L 29/12, H04L 12/46,
H04L 12/64
- (43) Date of publication A2:
22.11.2000 Bulletin 2000/47
- (21) Application number: 00303325.5

(22) Date of filing: 19.04.2000

<div>(84) Designated Contracting States: AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE Designated Extension States: AL LT LV MK RO SI</div> <div>(30) Priority: 27.04.1999 GB 9909626</div> <div>(71) Applicant: Hewlett-Packard Company, A Delaware Corporation Palo Alto, CA 94304 (US)</div>	<div>(72) Inventors: • McDonnell, Edward Clifton, Bristol BS8 2JU (GB) • Coles, Alistair Neil Weston, Bath BA1 3RP (GB)</div> <div>(74) Representative: Lawrence, Richard Anthony et al Hewlett-Packard Limited, IP Section, Building 3, Filton Road Stoke Gifford, Bristol BS34 8QZ (GB)</div>
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Loop prevention in networks

(57) Logical connections between nodes in a network can be established by the following steps: generation of an identifier by each group of logically connected nodes in the network; exchange of identifiers between physically connected groups of logically connected nodes; and establishment of logical connections between physically connected groups of logically connected nodes for which the exchanged identifiers differ. Repeatedly carried out, these steps can allow a network without logical loops to be built up from individual nodes.

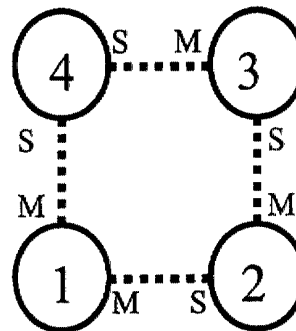


Figure 1



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 30 3325

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	ANDERSON D: "Firewire system architecture" FIREWIRE SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE, XX, XX, April 1998 (1998-04), pages 261-284, XP002162249 * page 265 - page 284 *	1,2	H04L12/40 H04L12/56 H04L29/12 H04L12/46 H04L12/64
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A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1999, no. 08, 30 June 1999 (1999-06-30) & JP 11 074889 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD), 16 March 1999 (1999-03-16) * abstract *	1-6	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			H04L
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		23 October 2002	Dupuis, H
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 00 30 3325

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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23-10-2002

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